essential commodities, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Retail open market prices of sugar, rice, wheat and other cereals in Delhi have generally remained steady over the past two months.

(c) Does not arise.

Loss to tobacco growers due to damping off and Black Shank Diseases

2474. SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that tobacco growers in Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh have suffered huge losses due to damping off and Black Shank diseases of Tobacco;

(b) whether Tobacco Research Stations at Hunsur and Rajahmundry have suggested to Government to supply Didomill to the growers through Tobacco Board or State Agriculture Department to effectively control these diseases of Tobacco; and

(c) if so, what action Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The fungicide Ridomil is not available in the country. The Central Tobacco Research Institute is being advised to take up testing of suitable substitutes for generating data against these two diseases.

Call to treat Muslims as socially backward community

2475. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention have been drawn to the news item published in the Times of India of 14th October, 1986 regarding call by a former member of Planning Commission to treat Muslims s socially backward community instead of a religious group and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government are aware of a general feeling of neglect amongst various minority groups and, if so, what corrective steps Government propose in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) Yes, Sir. According to the news item published in the Times of India of 14 October, 1986 a former Member of the Planning Commission is reported to have made a statement on the lines mentioned in the question.

(b) It would not be a correct to say that there is a general feeling of neglect amongst various minority groups.

Delay in implementation of the Narmada Project

2476. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is abnormal and indefinite delay in implementation of the Narmada project in Gujarat;

(b) what is the actual cost that Gujarat has to incur per day for the delay in implementation of this project and what is the per day loss Government have to suffer due to this delay and the money already spent or invested on this project;

(c) what is the amount by way of commitment charges that Gujarat Government is required to pay to the World Bank on this project;

(d) what are the steps taken by Government to minimise the delay in implementation of this project; and

(e) what is the estimated escalation in project cost due to this delay and whether it is proposed to identify and fix responsibility for this delay on concerned departments or individuals and take suitable action against them, if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (e) Sardar Sarovar Project has been found acceptable by the Technical Advisory Committees of the Planning Commission and is pending clearance from environmental and forest angle. Meanwhile construction of canal and foundation work or dam are in progress. The expenditure incurred till September 1986, is Rs. 355 crores. The commitment charges are borne by Government of India and Government of Gujarat are not required to make any payment on this account. The increase in cost of a project is due to many factors including price increase due to delay. It is difficult to estimate the increase in cost due to delay in implementation.

2477. [*Transferred to the 1st December*, 1986].

Bagging of fertilizer of projects by SNAM

2478. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that SNAM has bagged fertilizer projects in our country in a row as reported in the 'Sunday Observer' of 26th October, 1986;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and reasons for importing one type of technology for the above projects; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to ensure that chemical fertilizers are used in conjunction with organic fertilizers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. PRABHU): (a) and (b) Urea technology of Snamprogetti was selected in 1979 after a global evaluation by an Expert Group. Accordingly, consultancy services of Snamprogetti have been utilised for the Thal Project of Rashtriya Chemicals & Fertilisers Ltd., Hazira project of KRIBHCO (both VI Plan projects), Guna project of National Fertilizers Limited, Aonla project of IFFCO and Jadishpur project of Indo-Gulf Fertilizers & Chemicals Corporation Ltd. (VII Plan projects).

(c) The State Governments are being advised regularly to promote the use of organic manures alongwith chemical fertilizers. As a result of these efforts, it is estimated that about 241.7 million tonnes of compost were utilised in 1985-86 to supplement the use of chemical fertilizers.

Kailash Cooperative Group Housing Society, Delhi

2479. SHRI M. KADHARSHA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Kailash Cooperative Housing Society which has been allotted land in Pitampura has bogus membership;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether there are members in that Society who are not Indian citizens;

(d) whether such members are getting their shares transferred in other names fraudulently in connivance with office bearers of the society;

(e) what steps Government propose to take to ensure that all members of the Society are Indian Nationals and those who have change their nationality are not allowed to transfer their shares; and

(f) what are the names of persons which have been kept in waiting list and have since deposited the share money and membership enrolment fee and whether their money have been accounted for, if so, what are the Priority of persons in waiting list as per date of issue of receipt to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) The Reigstrar, Cooperative Societies, Delhi